

May 5, 2024 • 10:30am
Forgiveness is a Strange Thing

**WON'T YOU
BE MY
NEIGHBOR?**



 **Elk River** ELCA
LUTHERAN
Trusting in God's grace, an accepting,
joyful community, serving God & neighbor.



WELCOME

to Elk River Lutheran Church

Welcome to Elk River Lutheran Church! Whether you are joining us in-person or online, we're glad you're here. Elk River Lutheran Church is a forward-thinking congregation made up of people of all ages. We are a pretty new church (formed in 2009), located in a remodeled bank building on the Mississippi River in downtown Elk River. Our mission is: *Trusting in God's grace, an accepting, joyful community, serving God and neighbor.*

We are a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and celebrate the work we're able to do together as a denomination (to learn more about the ELCA visit www.elca.org). We welcome all people and as a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation that welcome extends to the LGBTQ+ community.

Please fill out the enclosed Connection Form slip and drop it in an offering plate to receive more information about Elk River Lutheran or share prayer concerns.

Things to know for the service today:

- J **Bathrooms**, complete with changing tables for little ones, are located in the Fellowship Hall in the corner opposite of the main entrance.
- J We welcome **kids** with their wiggles and noises in worship. We are also aware that as a parent, time away from wiggles and noises can be a blessing too. You will find our staffed nursery (For children 5 and under) by the entrance in the far corner of the fellowship hall.

We hope and pray you have a wonderful worship experience here today. To learn more about the many opportunities to participate and volunteer with the ministries of ERLC, visit our website:

<https://www.elkriverlutheran.org>

Worship Volunteers

	Sunday, May 5	Sunday, May 12
Greeters	Greg and Debby Pouliot	Lisa Bossany and Pat Kyro
Ushers	Viv and Jim Ayres	Anthony and Jeremiah Schaefer
Scripture Reader	Justin Howland	Asher Johnson
Communion Servers	Katherine and Audrey Horner	Michelle Hagberg and Kara Hennig
Sunday Morning Communion Setup/ CleanUp	Nancy Bock	Debby Pouliot
Communion Steward	Sarah Chur	Debby Pouliot
Mid-Week Communion Fill	Christine Hansen	Jenny Pruchnik
PowerPoint Operator	Julie Parks	Katherine Horner
Soundboard Operator	Bennett Johnson	Jeff Schrock
Switcher Operator	Noelle and Bennett Johnson	Nick Campbell

If you would like to serve, Great! Please contact Taylor Quinn so we can get you filled in. If you cannot volunteer for the upcoming Sunday, please contact Taylor @ taylor@elkriverlutheran.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Gathering of God's People

Welcome

God's Work Our Hands

Endowment Team

Sharing of the Peace

Confession and Forgiveness

Gathering Song

"Oh How Good It Is"

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer of the Day

Kids Connect

Scripture Readings

Luke 6:27-38

Sermon

Pastor Anne Schaefer

Song of the Day

"For All That You Have Done"

Sharing & Receiving the Gifts of God

Welcome New Members

Offering

"What a Friend We Have In Jesus"

Featuring Riverside Ringers

Offertory Prayer

Holy Communion

The Lord's Prayer

"The Lord's Prayer"

Communion Song

"Just As I Am (I Come Broken)"

Communion Blessing

The Sending of God's People

Community Announcements

Sending Blessing

Sending Song

"All the People Said Amen"

Sending Dialog

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Prayer Requests

Praise the Lord (joys and answered prayers):

- Baptism on May 5 of Luca Michael Croaston. Parents: Ashlee and Todd Croaston. Sponsors: Jesse and Jill Croaston. (This couple Pastor Anne knows from a previous congregation.)

In Sympathy

- Family and Friends of Agnes Marie Spake, Dare Funeral Luncheon at ERLC on Saturday May 11
- Family and Friends of Rev. Ronald Nielsen, father to Pete Nielsen
- Family and Friends of Gary Chouinard, brother of Paul.

For Support

- Kathie Nielsen, Pete Nielsen's mother
- Ruth Ann Cook

Share Your Prayer Concerns:

-) Email linda@elkriverlutheran.org
-) Fill out on your connection form
-) Contact the church office at (763) 595-1216
-) Fill out form on church website at elkriverlutheran.org

Generally, prayer requests will run for 3 weeks. If more time is needed, please call the church office

Health concerns

- Wally and Rose, brother and sister of Pat Donnelly (cancer)
- Rick, brother-in-law of Pat Donnelly (heart issues)
- Samantha's husband Tony's grandmother. Please pray for peace and comfort
- Rick Hansen, fractured collar bone healing
- Dariusz Pruchnik, Mike's Dad. Recovering from heart attack, emergency appendectomy and navigating recent cancer diagnosis
- Mary Wells, in hospice
- John Severson
- Garnet Novotny - cancer
- Carol Sindelir, Val Nelson's sister
- Fonda Whalen, dementia
- Bonnie Swedal
- Marie Abrahamsson, cancer, Pauline Kuhn's cousin
- Linda Retel, ongoing treatment for inoperable brain cancer (friend of Pauline Kuhn)
- Diane Harding, ALS diagnosis
- Brian Harding
- Diane McGrath, pancreatic cancer
- Ken Bucher
- Kris West, daughter of Bob and Sue Hagen
- Duane Jerde



LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Won't You Be My Neighbor?

May 5 - Forgiveness is a Strange Thing

CONNECT

Spend some time checking in. What are highs and lows since you last met? How can your group members pray for and support each other this week?

GROW

- Who has modeled forgiveness for you (either by what to do or what not to do)? What have you learned from them?
- Put these in order of easiest to forgive to hardest to forgive: your loved ones, your enemies, and yourself. Why did you choose that order?
- Instead of “enemies,” think about the people who disagree with you or come against you, the people who are just difficult to deal with, or the people who have offended you. What does forgiveness look like for you in regard to these people? How can the Kingdom of God be made known in your daily life?

PRAY

Holy God, you have uniquely created each of us, you love us, and you have blessed us with a beautiful day in the neighborhood. Open us to hear your word, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

News & Opportunities



Varty's Greenhouse Fundraiser: May 5th 5-8pm **Fundraiser for the 2024 High School Youth Mission Trip**

We 'll gather at the greenhouse, and sing our hearts out while purchasing beautiful plants! A huge THANK YOU to Varty's for hosting us and making a generous donation to ERLC youth as they prepare for the summer mission trip.



Women's Book Club starting May 6th at 6:30pm

Join us for enriching literature and fellowship!

When: 1st Mondays from May thru August at 6:30 PM in the ERLC Community Room.

The First Meeting will be May 6th at 6:30pm and will be a chance to get to know each other and discuss what books to read during the summer months. *All are Welcome!*

Contact amyanderson75@gmail.com for more details



Understanding Estate Planning and Elder Law: Presentation and Dinner

Wednesday, May 15 | 6:30pm

Guest Speaker: Steve Helseth (Estate Planning Attorney from Bolt Law Firm in Anoka)

This is a free event sponsored by the ERLC Mission Endowment Fund, but spaces are limited, so please register today at bit.ly/3PvyBFA



ERLC Block Party - Sunday May 19 - Volunteer Sign Up Now!

Joint Outdoor Worship Service at 9:30am followed by Block Party from 11am-1pm

Once again we will kick off the season by worshipping outdoors and throwing a party for our community. Food, Games, Live Music, Bounce House and Entertainment for All. Sign up to help at bit.ly/2024BlockPartyHelp



Summer Festival Camp: Registration Now Open

Join us for 3 nights of fun, worship, and inspiration at Gustavus Adolphus College. Only \$275!

High School: July 7-10

Middle School: July 14-17

Registration: <https://erlc.breezechms.com/form/1c91049>

This Week at Elk River Lutheran

SUNDAY

8:30am Traditional Worship with Kids Connect
9:30am Fellowship Hour
10:30am Contemporary Worship with Kids Connect
5-8pm ERLC Day at Varty's Greenhouse

MONDAY

10:00am Hospitality Team (Quilting Room)
6:00pm Worship Band Rehearsal
6:30pm Women's Monthly B

TUESDAY

9:00am Quilting (Lower Level Quilting Room)
Mission Quilts are made for Lutheran World Relief. All skill levels welcome.
10:00am Text Study (Lower Level Community Room) *Studying the bible text for the upcoming Sunday Worship along with the preaching pastor. All are welcome. Come once or come every week*
7:00pm AA Meeting (Community Room)

WEDNESDAY

6:00pm Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal
6:30pm End of Year Confirmation and High School Party

THURSDAY

10:00pm ERLC Current Mailing Assembly (Contact Linda in the office if you can help, 763-595-1216, linda@elkriverlutheran.org)
6:00pm Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY

9:00am Women's Coffee (Panera, Elk River)
9:00am Men's Breakfast (Coborns, Elk River)

SATURDAY

Minneapolis Synod Assembly

8:00am Men's Bible Study (Zoom Bible Study)
Find a link at:
<https://www.elkriverlutheran.org/adult-ministries.html>
11:00am Dare Funeral Luncheon for Agnes Marie Spake

NEXT SUNDAY

🎓 **Graduating Senior Sunday** 🎓
Mother' Day

8:30am Traditional Worship with Kids Connect
9:30am Fellowship Hour
10:30am Contemporary Worship with Kids Connect
5-8pm ERLC Day at Varty's Greenhouse

Please sign the cards thanking Brian Harding for his service



Join us in extending our heartfelt thanks to Brian Harding, our esteemed custodian who retired a few months ago. Your signature and personal message on the card will convey our deep appreciation for his dedicated service to our community. Let's show Brian how much his hard work and commitment have meant to us over the years. Cards can be found in the fellowship hall.